

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Changes in the Katowice Area since  
World War II

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

report on developments in the Katowice area since World War II. The report contains information on changes and improvements of roads, railroads, bridges and factories, and has attached a sketch pinpointing installations mentioned in the report.

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# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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MAJOR CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE KATOWICE AREA OF  
POLAND SINCE WW II (C)

## Introduction

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[redacted] Largely industrial, this area had  
undergone many changes as the result of damage suffered during WW II and because of natural industrial expansion. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

The following is a list of locations referred to in this report, with co-ordinates for each:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Geographic Coordinates</u>	<u>UTM Coordinates</u>
BLEDOWSKA, PUSTYNIA	N50-21, E19-31	CA-9578
JAWORZNO	N50-14, E19-17	CA-7763
KOLUSZKI	N51-45, E19-49	DC-1833
LWOW	N49-51, E24-01	KR-8625
MIKOLOW	N50-10, E18-54	CA-5060
MYSLOWICE	N50-14, E19-08	CA-6767
NIWKA	N50-15, E19-10	CA-7067
OSWIECIM	N50-03, E19-15	CA-7344
WELNOWIEC	N50-17, E19-02	CA-5971

Changes and Improvements in the Katowice Area Since WW II

The items in the area which have undergone changes are shown at numbered points on Annex A and were described [redacted] as follows:

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POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

1

Road, MYSLOWICE-OSWIECIM

This was an eight-meter-wide road of cobblestone and asphalt, described by the symbols shown on the annex.

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POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2 Railroad Bridge 50X1-HUM  
[redacted]
- 3 Railroad Bridge 50X1-HUM  
[redacted]
- 4 Railroad Bridge  
This was a new, two-track, steel railroad bridge, built in 1955. It was 30 m long by 6 m wide, and had an underbridge clearance of 10 m. It had a 250-ton capacity, concrete abutments, a steel deck, and it was electrified. Built by the Institute of Sand Railways, it crossed the MYSLOWICE-JAWORZNO highway.  
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 5 Road, MYSLOWICE-JAWORZNO  
[redacted]
- 6 Factory  
[redacted]  
[redacted] It encompassed 6000 sq m of ground and produced GPO 50X1-HUM  
(meaning of GPO not known [redacted]) 100 and 200 drilling machines. 50X1-HUM  
The factory consisted of 3 large main buildings and 3 smaller ones and employed about 500 people who worked 2 shifts daily. The factory had been rebuilt at some unknown date after WW II, at which time it was converted to drilling machine production.  
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 7 Highway Bridge  
[redacted]
- 8 Road Curve  
This was a 40-degree curve on the MYSLOWICE-NIKWA road, constructed at the time the bridge at point 7 was built. [redacted] the bridge was located 10 m north of the point where the road previously crossed the Przemsza River, necessitating a relocation of a short section of the road. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 9 Coal Mine  
A coal mine named "Kopalnia Myslowice" was located at this point. It employed about 4000 people who worked 3, 8-hour shifts.

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50X1-HUM

POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 10 Steel Factory 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM  
 [redacted] it contained 2 large buildings, 30 x 15 x 10 m, and 1 smaller one, 20 x 10 x 15 m, which was an administrative building. The factory produced steel members for bridges, steel parts for electric high tension power lines, and steel poles for transformers. [redacted] the factory employed about 300 people. [redacted]
- 11 Railroad 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM  
 This was a railroad constructed by the Institute of Sand Railways which maintained its main office on Ulica Koniewa in WELNOWIEC. [redacted] its origin as PUSTYNIA BLEDOWSKA [redacted] on the overlay. This varies with information furnished [redacted] as does the number of tracks (see point 14 below). [redacted] continual work was in progress to electrify the line, and that in November 1957, it was electrified to the point marked "X" on the overlay. 50X1-HUM
- 12 Housing Area  
 Built between 1952 and 1955, this was a housing area which contained about 100, 3- or 4-story brick houses which accommodated approximately 5000 people.
- 13 Steel Mill and Foundry 50X1-HUM  
 [redacted] steel mill and foundry (fabryka konstrukcji stalowych i odlewnia) [redacted]  
 [redacted] four large buildings behind which the top of a chimney was visible. One of the buildings looked new, had four stories, and appeared to be an administrative building. Another, a one-story building, appeared to be a welding shop. Still another appeared to be a garage large enough to house 10 automobiles.
- 14 Two-Track Railroad  
 [redacted] at this point the railroad mentioned in Point 11 above was widened to two tracks. 50X1-HUM
- 15 Factory  
 [redacted] it employed about 200 people and produced machines used in mining. The only specific product [redacted] was pneumatic drills. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
- 16 Railroad, KATOWICE-WARSAW  
 This was the main railroad line from KATOWICE through KOLUSZKI to WARSAW. It was 100 percent electrified.

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<u>POINT</u>	<u>ITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION</u>	
		50X1-HUM
17	Railroad, KATOWICE-KRAKOW	
	This railroad was in the process of being electrified.	
18	Road, KATOWICE-WARSAW	
		50X1-HUM
19	Electrical Factory	
		50X1-HUM
	It consisted of two main shops and two other buildings, and the only items it produced were electric cables. The factory was constructed between 1952 and 1954.	
20	Electrical Factory	
		50X1-HUM
	It consisted of two shops and an administrative building, it produced electrical items for railroads, such as: signals, lights, and transformers. It was constructed between 1951 and 1954 and employed two shifts because at 1900 hours all lights were on in the buildings.	
21	Iron Foundry	
	In 1953 about half of the buildings of this foundry, named "Huta Ferrum," were destroyed by fire. The foundry was subsequently rebuilt and expanded into more than 20 large buildings and many smaller ones. It employed about 2500 people who worked 3 shifts.	50X1-HUM
	The main effort was the smelting of raw iron ore. There were no military personnel in evidence.	
22	Electric Light Bulb Factory (Fabryka Lamp Zarowych)	
	Constructed between 1948 and 1951, the only item produced by this factory was electric light bulbs.	50X1-HUM
23	Destroyed Factory	
	Shown on the map as a factory, this site contained only rubble of a former brick-producing factory which was razed after WW II.	
24	Railroad, Katowice Bypass	
	In November 1957 this was a one-track railroad along which a second track was being laid by the Polish State Railroad Construction Enterprise Number Five (Panstwowe Przedsiębiorstwo Robot Kolejowych). The line was a bypass for KATOWICE and was used only by freight trains, but it was intended that it would be electrified and used by passenger trains at some unknown future date.	

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POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 25 Destroyed Factory 50X1-HUM  
Shown on the map as a factory, this site contained only rubble of a former brick-producing factory which was razed after WW II.
- 26 Airport 50X1-HUM  
Constructed before WW II, this small airport could accommodate two-engine planes. On its 400- to 500-meter landing strip two planes landed daily, one from WARSAW and one from GDANSK. There was no control tower at the field; its only structure was a two-story building. [redacted] this field was the municipal airport for KATOWICE, and that the only planes [redacted] land at the field were the "Dakota" [redacted] and the 2-EU14 furnished by the Soviet Union.
- 27 Proposed Airfield and Railroad Depot 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] it was general knowledge that an airfield and railroad depot were to be constructed at this point in the future. Work was to have started in 1952, but as of November 1957, it had not begun.
- 28 Road, KATOWICE-MIKOLOW 50X1-HUM  
[redacted]
- 29 Railroad Bridge 50X1-HUM  
[redacted]
- 30 Housing Area  
The area could accommodate about 6000 people. The homes were two-story, one family buildings, made of brick.
- 31 Housing Area  
Built to accommodate about 2000 people, this area consisted of 2-story, 1-family brick homes. Both this area and the one at Point 30 were started in 1956, and the homes were being constructed by the owners themselves at an estimated cost of 120,000 zlotys per unit. Work was still in progress in November 1957.
- 32 Road Hazard 50X1-HUM  
At this point the KATOWICE-MIKOLOW road was undermined. [redacted] mines under the road had caved in making this section dangerous but passable. 50X1-HUM

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POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

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33 Cathedral

Finished in 1955, this cathedral was 40 m high and was capable of seating 10,000 people. [redacted] this was the largest post-war building of its kind in Poland and that it was built with money contributed by Rome and the populace of Poland. No assistance was obtained from the state.

34 Railroad Bridge

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35 Railroad Bridge

36 Housing Area Site

[redacted] drillings to determine foundation suitability for home construction. Based on [redacted] finding that the ground was suitable, work was to begin in 1958 to construct 40 to 50 homes, 6 or 7 stories high.

37 Main Post Office

[redacted] annotated this point for the purpose of orientation since the post office was located in the center of the city.

38 Railroad Depot

50X1-HUM

39 Roundhouse

50X1-HUM

40 Railroad Platform

This platform (przystanek kolejowy) was under construction in November 1957, and upon completion was to be used for electric trains only. It was located five meters above street level and had two concrete stairways leading to the ground floor.

41 Factory

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[redacted] a factory was built at this point between 1953 and 1957. It consisted of two large buildings and one small one

[redacted] piles of coiled steel springs about one-half meter in length, width unknown, in the factory area.

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POINTITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 42 Coal Mine  
At this point there was a coal mine which was extensively expanded after WW II. [redacted] many new brick buildings in the area, one of which was used for separating the hard coal from shale and rock. The mine employed about 4000 people who worked 3 shifts. 50X1-HUM
- 43 Housing Area  
Begun in 1951, this area was finished in 1956. It contained 4- or 5-story apartment buildings which housed about 20,000 people.
- 44 Office Building  
This Ministry of Mining building was the largest in KATOWICE and was located on Ulica Rozy Luksemburg. It contained the major offices concerned with mining, which included: Bureau of Mining Projects (Biuro Projektow Gorniczych); Bureau of Mechanical Projects in Coal Processing (Biuro Projektow Mechanicznej Przerobki Wegla); Supervisory Bureau of Mining Equipment Installation (Biuro Zarzadu Matarzu Urzadzien Gorniczych); and at least six more [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 45 Housing Area Site  
[redacted] made drillings to determine foundation suitability for home construction. Based on [redacted] finding that the ground was suitable, work was to begin in 1958 to construct 40 to 50 homes, 6 or 7 stories high. 50X1-HUM
- 46 Life Saving Equipment Factory  
[redacted] this factory (Fabryka Sprzetu Ratunkowego) was built between 1946 and 1948. At the time [redacted] it produced gas masks and oxygen apparatus used in mines. It employed about 2500 people who worked two shifts. It consisted of a large shop, a barracks, and an administration building. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 47 Main Institute of Mining  
The Main Institute of Mining (Glowny Instytut Gornictwa) was built between 1947 and 1951. All coal mining matters such as the exploration, expansion, and development of coal mines were referred to this institute. It was directly subordinate to the Ministry of Mining which had a branch office at 34 Ulica Powstancow in KATOWICE, and it handled only matters connected with coal, and no other mineral. 50X1-HUM
- 48 Road, KATOWICE-WELNOWIEC  
This road was five meters wide with a cobblestone pavement. It had a one-meter-wide dirt shoulder along one side, and a one-half-meter-wide sidewalk along the other.

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POINT

ITEM DESIGNATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 49      Housing Area  
This area was comprised of 4- or 5-story brick homes and could accommodate about 10,000 people.
- 50      Housing Area  
Built between 1950 and 1954, this area contained 60 to 70, 3-story brick homes which could house between 5000 and 6000 people.
- 51      Housing Area  
In this area there were 3-story homes which could house about 2000 people.
- 52      Housing Area  
Built between 1952 and 1955, this area contained 100, 3- or 4-story homes and could house about 5000 people.

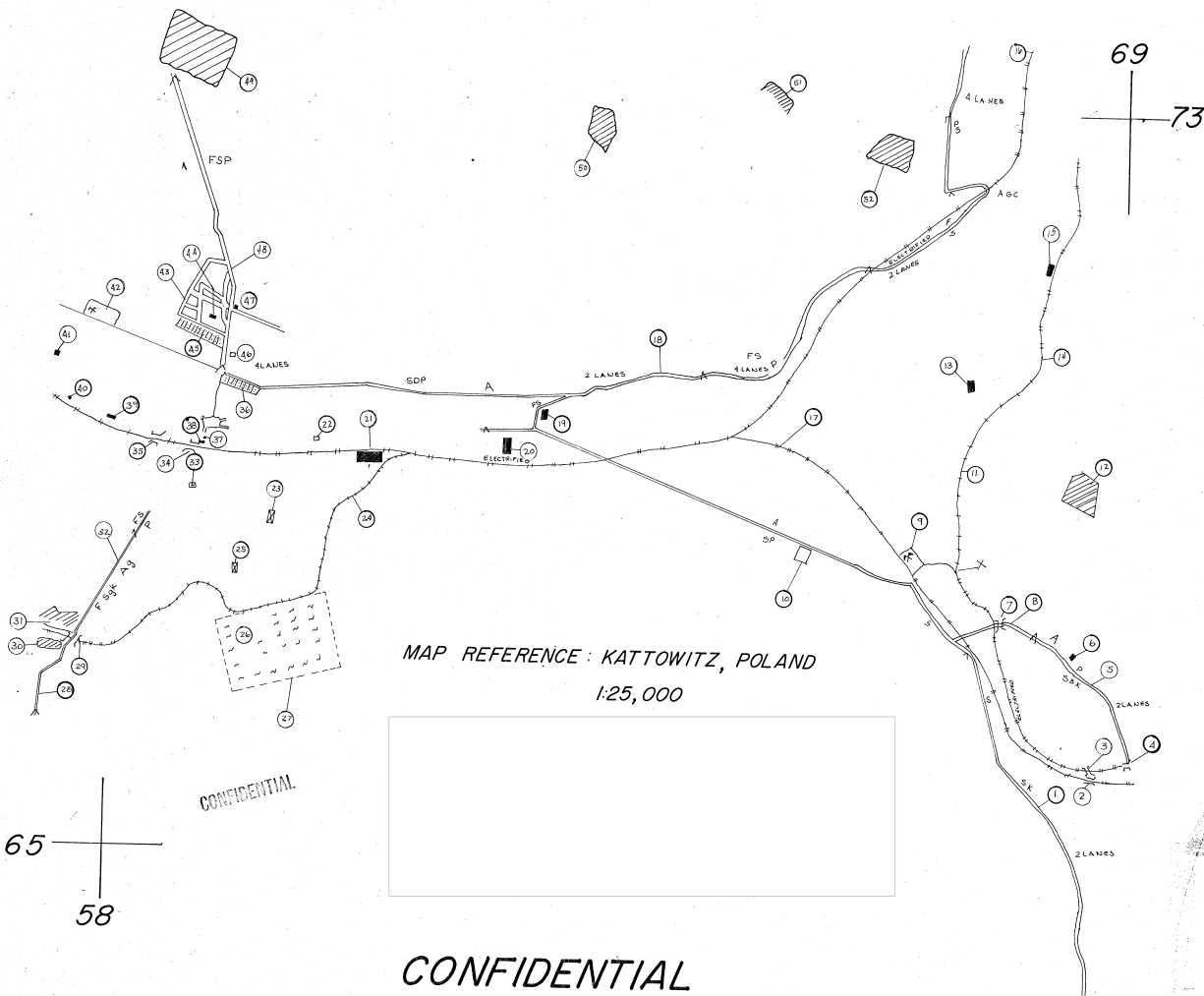
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**ANNEX A**  
**MAJOR CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE KATOWICE AREA, POLAND**

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